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The Industrial Labour Welfare Association Ltd.,
COIMBATORE.

Welcome Speech
by

Mr. G. D. Naidu,
President, The Industrial Labour Welfare Association Ltd.

and

Reply by
H. E. Sri P. S. Kumaraswami Raja,
Governor of Orissa.

GOPAL BAGH, **20—2—1956** COIMBATORE.

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A party was given at "Gopal Bagh" on 20-2-'56 at 5 P. M. by Mr. G. D. Naidu in honour of H. E. Shri P. S. Kumaraswamy Raja, Governor of Orissa. It was attended by a large number of distinguished people-both officials and unofficials.

Mr. G. D. Naidu addressed thanking the Governor for having accepted his invitation and how he invited him on knowing his programme of visit in the South. Mr. Naidu has briefly dealt how he happened to collect the schemes during his recent visit to U. S. A., U. K. and the continental countries and explained in what ways they will be useful to our country particularly at this juncture.

The Chief Guest gave his reply in Tamil, the English Text of which is given here as published in the Madras Mail.

Speech given by

Mr. G. D. NAIDU

At the Tea Party given in honour of H. E. Sri P. S. Kumaraswami Raja, Governor of Orissa, at "Gopal Bagh", Avanashi Road, Coimbatore on 20-2-1956 at 5 P. M

Your Excellency and Friends,

I am glad to have this function today particularly at this juncture when our distinguished Chief Guest, the Governor of Orissa has accepted my request, while he has multifarious engagements. I did not ask him to accept my invitation all on a sudden by taking the chance of his coming over this side. But you will be interested to know how and why I invited him and how he accepted my request.

I went to England in 1954 September as a holiday trip without any aim. When we take salt, sugar or chillies more than the necessary quantity, whether it is sweet, hot or pungent, we hate them even if the excess is very small. In the same way, when I was doing hard work in connection with industries and industrial education, there were some continued and excessive obstacles, which created hatredness in my

mind. So I left this place without any aim as my holiday. I was wandering in U.S.A., and I received a letter dated the 24th December, 1954 from Dr. Mohanty, when I was in Chicago, from which I read a paragraph here:

> "You will be glad to learn that I have succeeded now in getting government's approval together with provision of funds for starting a training institution in Automobile and Diesels. It would be no exaggeration to say that the Institute planned and started by you at Coimbatore for training in automobiles, which is now a part of the Arthur Hope Polytechnic is no doubt, the best institution in the country. I would, therefore, like to build our institution on the model of the one started by you ......"
>
> "I feel that the only chance of getting through the scheme is to seek your utmost help and cooperation. knowing you as I do, I am sure this would be coming from you spontaneously"

In this letter he further requested me to give several particulars for starting the institution and he did not ask me because of hearsay information or by reading the news about the training given here. He came here about nearly 10 years back, visited, inspected and expressed his views as given below:

> "Ever since I visited your ideal institution, I have been insisting on my Government to send a few students there for training in

Automobile and Radio Engineering. Government have now sanctioned scholarships and they have asked me to request you kindly to spare as many seats as you conveniently can this year. Our requirements are three seats in each of the subjects, but we will be satisfied with whatever you can spare. I am therefore, making this personal request because I have told my Government that the boys receive a type of training in your institution, which they will get nowhere in India. I have seen most of the institutions in India and my firm conviction is that the training and moulding of character for which your institution provides facilities is unique in India. That is why we are so very anxious to get few students trained there and I hope we will not be disappointed".

After an year he had written another letter, which reads as follows:

"It is after a long time that I am writing this letter to you. We are all grateful to you for the facilities that you have given in your institution at Coimbatore to some of the young men of our Province to get trained in Radio Technology. The Government of Orissa are now considering a scheme to run transport service in the Province as a State concern by forming a Joint Stock Company with the existing motor bus owners. They heard from me about the excellent organization that you have built up at Coimbatore, which gives the best motor transport service available in India. Some of our Ministers have also heard about your excellent motor transport organization from their collegues and friends in South India. They have, therefore, requested me to approach you and seek your help and advice in

the matter of organizing a transport service in Orissa. Knowing how helpful you are by nature, I am sure, your help and sympathy will come forth in ample measure. We would like to build up an organization on the model of yours. We would therefore, be obliged if you could kindly condescend to take a few men to work in your organization for some time to get proper training in running efficiently a motor transport service. On hearing from you, our Government will proceed to select a few men according to your advice and requirements and depute them to be trained in your organization.

Therefore, after seeing Dr. Mohanty's letter at Chicago, I cabled to him as follows:

"Reference your letter. I need not mention educational films and school projector foremost need for our country than any other industries at present. A best concern offering help with favourable terms. Prices will be less than the prices quoted in England and India. No other best available. If chief, Education, Industries Ministers are anxious, I will negotiate for new public and State combined concern or private concern and will send scheme for consideration and approval. Expecting reply within sixteenth"

For this, I received a reply cable from him asking me to send a detailed scheme.

I sent a similar cable to Dr. V. K. John, M. L. C., of Madras, who also asked me to do something for the development of education, industries and agriculture. In

this connection, I received a reply from him as follows:

> "Met Chief Minister, Madras. Government keenly interested in educational films and projectors. Negotiate without commitment. Send scheme for consideration".

Subsequently I received a letter from one of my old friends Mr. P. Govinda Menon, who is now the Director of small-Scale Industries Institute of Technology of the Government of India at Madras and who knows intimately about the training given here in the industrial education. Apart from these friends, I received more than 100 letters from several friends, in which one friend Mr. Lonappan, ex-Minister of Cochin State asked me to give a complete scheme for manufacturing the U. M. S. blades in this part of the country, where no blades are manufactured. Of course, all other friends, as usual, asked me to bring some watches, cameras, typewriters and such other things as souvenirs or presents, for which I printed and sent a reply letter in which I asked them to get import licence and exchange facilities. No reply I got from any of them.

What I want to mention here is this. When I was simply wandering and wasting my time, visiting factories, old friends, whom I have visited before, without any

usefulness for our country, Dr. Mohanty's letter awakened me from the deep sleep of my interested activities. From the date I received his letter, I took more interest than normally I would do. I began searching in the ocean of an industrial country, for the materials wanted for us, suitable for us and possible for us. Finally I brought some materials to our country.

As a first priority to be given in our country, I am always insisting upon proper and useful education, particularly industrial education. This everyone now insists. But I tried my best for this purpose creating an Industrial Education Trust in 1939 and it failed. Then taking the advantage and opportunity afforded after the Second World War, I tried my best to get my aim fulfilled. Here too I did not get complete success. Then again, I tried by opening Arthur Hope Polytechnic and Arthur Hope College of Technology with entire responsibility taken by the Madras Government. There also I found no success, though not complete waste.

Therefore, I tried independently through this Industrial Labour Welfare Association, a short term vacational course in automobile service engineering, radio service engineering and allied subjects for

nearly ten years. Many friends who visited this Institution appreciated this kind of training very much. Amongst them are Dr. Mohanty, Sir C. V. Raman, Sir M. Visvesvaraya, Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Iyer, Dr. P. Subbaroyan, Dr. R. M. Alagappa Chettiar, Sir Lala Shri Ram, Dr. B. N. Dey, Mr. S. K. Ray Chaudhury, Shri Girdardas G. Murarji, Mr. Humayun Kabir, Acharya J. B. Kripalani, Mr. V. V. Giri, Mr. T. Siddalingiah, Mr. Ramachandra Rao, Mr. B. Gopala Reddi, Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari, Late T. A. Ramalingam Chettiar, Late V. C. Vellingiri Gounder, Mr. K. Madhava Menon, Mr. H. Sitarama Reddi, Late Dr. J. J. Rudra, Mr. Thacker and Lt. Col. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai. They all wanted that institutions of this type should be started all over our country. Amongst them Dr. Mohanty, Dr. Alagappa Chettiar, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Iyer, Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar, Sir Shri Ram, Mr. Madhava Menon, Mr. Sitaram Reddi, Mr. V. V. Giri and Late Dr. J. J. Rudra were trying their best to bring into action to start such schemes. They have also almost failed during all these years. By continuous effort, Dr. Mohanty is going to carry out such schemes in Orissa before any other State takes up the work.

The Andhra State may follow, because its Chief Minister Mr. B. Gopala Reddi has taken keen interest now. I discussed about this with our Ministers also. We can expect favourable result. But before our government does anything, Dr. Alagappa Chettiar's College and Annamalai University may take up this kind of scheme earlier. I do not know exactly what kind of obstacles will stand in the way. Until our technical colleges and institutes are conducted in such a way as to maintain themselves, I mean, the institutions themselves meeting the recurring expenses, our country cannot solve the unemployment problem successfully.

The Employment Exchange Office furnishes that in 1952 the application registered were 4,37,500 and now it is 6,95,000. In the increased number of applicants, most of them want clerk's post. But the opportunity for clerk's post has not been increased in any way. Applications from persons having practical and technical subjects in engineering lines have not increased; but the number of posts wanted in the line is increasing. At the same time, several degree holders, who left the colleges are still unemployed. I need not say here that the educational system now in vogue requires a radical change. Nobody knows, by whom and how, it can be done.

At this moment, Dr. Mohanty has taken up the lead by the guidance of Mr. Kumaraswami Raja, our friend and our distinguished chief guest of today, who is now the Governor of Orissa. He always does his work in action and not by making any advertisement. I have seen this once when he spent much time in connection with some negotiation. I also know about an occasion at the time when he was the Chief Minister of our State, he spent some hours in connection with starting the Mercedes Benz diesel factory in this State, leaving aside several other engagements and while two other ministers were waiting at his table for hours. Of course, we know now that the very same factory has been opened, though not here, near the Orissa State, where he has got great interest as Governor.

When I wrote to him about the correspondence I had with his planning officer in connection with industry and industrial education, I received his reply immediately expressing his great interest in the subject supporting Dr. Mohanty's schemes. When this correspondence was going on, I took the opportunity of inviting him for this function when he arranged his tour in this side.

I want to say here, though Dr. Mohanty's desire in starting something in this line has been lingering in his mind for the last 10 years, he was successful at the time of the regime of the present Governor, who knows the important benefits we will derive by the development of industries and industrial education. The credit of entering into this revolutionary method from the old orthodox method of the East India Company, which is still existing in our independent country, goes to our distinguished chief guest. I hope the other States will follow soon.

All the State Governments are very keen to revolutionise the industry, education, agriculture etc. Some years back, though the leaders and other top rank officers were keen to do everything as quickly as possible, they were not able to do so on account of the old method and mechanism. Now, the time has changed. Everything is going on very quickly. I want to mention here one or two instances. Just at the beginning of our getting independence, an application for an automobile factory was taken up for consideration only after 14 months. Then five years back an application for a licence disappeared. Now, I don't know what magic Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari has done. If we apply for a licence,

in a few days or few weeks, we get the results. In some cases, on the very day of application, the licence is got. Not only in the matter of licence, but also Mr. T. T. K. is very keen to start number of industries in this side. He is prepared to give any amount of help in finanace and guidance. His complaint is that not many people come forward with applications for starting new industries.

Apart from this, our State Ministers were supposed to be conservative and orthodox in their policies connected with industries and education some time back. They were used to reply "we will attend to it, we will do our best in the matter". Subsequently they forget in their heavy and multifarious programmes. Now our ministers Mr. Kamaraj, Mr. C. Subramaniam and Mr. Bhakthavatsalam are very keen to have more industries in our State and want to change the educational curriculam in such a way as to meet the present need. We should not miss this golden opportunity to get what we want in industry and education from these Ministers. Even yesterday Mr. C. Subramaniam in his rush of engagements asked me about the progress of my proposals suggested to him in connection with the industries which is now in the hands of the Director of Industries,

who also came here recently in connection with the same. This shows how keen our Government is.

If I say anything more, all of you may think that it is flattery. Whether flattery or not, I want to tell our friends that every one of us should follow their lead. Our distinguished chief guest has donated his living houses as a monument for the most useful public benefit. Of course, we could not follow entirely some of his activities, because if any one of us try for the whole life time, we can't get the Chief Minister's place or the position of a Governor. There are not many States to provide such positions for all those that copy him. We have not got so much experience as is had by our Chief Guest.

I do not want to drag in any politics or other controversial matters; but we all expect from our friend, though he is the Governor of Orissa, his friendly advice at the present time in connection with industries, education and other social activities.

I once again thank you for your kind acceptance of my invitation and I also thank all the guests here for having responded to my request.

Thank you all.

Reply by H. E. Sri P. S. Kumaraswami Raja in Tamil, which has been rendered in English in the "Madras Mail" dated 22—2—1956 and which runs as follows:

P. S. Kumaraswami Raja

advice to Tamilians

Coimbatore, Feb., 21.

Speaking in Tamil at a tea party given in his honour by Mr. G. D. Naidu yesterday, Mr. P. S. Kumaraswami Raja, Governor of Orissa, appealed to the people of Tamil Nad to cultivate the habit of speaking in Tamil as far as possible at public functions, especially at a time when linguistic States were to be formed.

Mr. Kumaraswami Raja said that when so much was talked about Tamil language, he did not understand why he should be welcomed in English by Mr. G. D. Naidu. He had found that in North India people who knew English, did not speak in that language, but spoke in Hindi.

North Indians spoke only Hindi at all public functions, whether the people who listened to them understood Hindi or not, he said.

Governor's role

Referring to certain suggestions made by Mr. G. D. Naidu with regard to industrialisation in Orissa, Madras, and other places, Mr. Kumaraswami Raja said he was only a constitutional head and therefore, could not do anything.

The Governor's duty ended with affixing signatures to what Ministers did. It was the Ministers who formulatsd schemes, and implemented them. However, he assured Mr. G. D. Naidu to persuade his Ministers in Orissa to consider some of his proposals.

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